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Title : Need to review the proposal to acquire residential area for the expansion of Chennai Airport.

SHRI P. MOHAN (MADURAI): Chennai Airport is sought to be expanded and for this purpose there was a proposal till September last to acquire lands that remained mostly as vacant pieces of land. About 1457 acres of land were announced to be handed over by the then Government in Tamilnadu. There came a new proposal in December last according to which a new area with lands that come under Anakaputhur, Polichalur, Pammal, Panchayat Unions. The area that come under the new proposal has got more of residential area with 4629 houses, 9 overhead tanks (public water tanks), 8 Govt. buildings, 5 manufacturing companies, 23 temples, 2 churches. About 25,000 people live in this area for hundreds of years.

We all welcome the proposal of the Government to expand Chennai Airport, but at the same time we should not be found disturbing and disrupting the lives of about 25,000 of people who live there for long number of years. Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to go in for the earlier proposal in which only open lands were sought to be acquired. Or else an International Airport can be constructed beyond Sriperumbudur in the outskirts of Chennai which has got vast

open stretch of land. Instead of shattering the lives and dreams of thousands of people, the Government may go in for open vast land for the expansion of Chennai Airport.

* English translation of the speech orignially delivered in Tamil.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (SRIPERUMBUDUR): Sir, on behalf of the DMK party, I also associate myself with what Mr. Mohan has submitted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, you name would be associated.